The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1129. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 22, NO. 38.

Philosophy, if rightly defined, is nothing but the love of wisdom.—Cicero.

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Sales Tax Condemned

Strong opposition to the sales tax was expressed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation at Cincinnati.

In pointing out the iniquity of the scheme the Council said:

"The American Federation of Labor has consistently opposed sales legislation because it represents an attempt to transfer the burden of taxation from wealth and from those who are able to bear it, to the masses of the people and to those who are least able to bear the burden of taxation. The Executive Council regards this form of taxation as a movement to 'soak the poor.'

"In operation the sales tax would be collected from every purchaser of an article. It is reprehensible because it is concealed. The tax upon the articles bought would not be in evidence so that those who purchase could see and understand the amount of tax they would be called upon to pay.

"Even though many of the necessaries of life, including agricultural products, would be excluded from the provisions of the sales tax in the beginning of the enactment of sales tax legislation, it is reasonable to conclude, based upon experience in taxation procedure, that ultimately it would be extended to cover all sales of all articles including the bare necessaries of life. Because of this possibility the American Federation of Labor has vigorously and uncompromisingly opposed all forms of sales tax legislation."

The Council declared that sales tax advocates will make a desperate attempt to secure its enactment into law at the coming session of Congress.

"Those who favor this form of taxation are aggressive, as is evidenced by the propaganda which is being carried on in various ways in support of such legislation," the Council said.

"It presents a serious problem for the consideration of the masses of the people. They must face the issue and decide as to whether they will permit their representatives in Congress to enact a sales tax law which in effect will require them to pay a tax every time they make a purchase.

"The American Federation of Labor is standing guard in opposition to the enactment of this legislation. In order to be successful it must be accorded the support of Labor and the masses of the people, and their true friends. Great interest must be aroused in this question. The opposition of these groups to which reference is made must be made known to their representatives in Congress."

Union Organization Imperative

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in its report to the annual convention of the Federation at Cincinnati, emphasized the fact that trade union organization is the only sure way to protect the workers and advance their welfare both in times of prosperity and depression. The council said:

"Despite depression handicaps the Federation has continued to aid organizing work during the past year. The unusual amount of fundamental thinking and questioning of existing practices provide an exceptional opportunity for organizing work. On all sides we are confronted with the fallacy of expecting improvements from letting things alone.

"Many wage-earners have let alone the problems of increasing their wages and gaining more leisure, thinking they could get along without giving the time or making the investments necessary for directing their betterment through trade unions.

"Trade unionism requires initiative, responsibility, understanding of industrial and social relationships.

"Ths breakdown of industry shows up the barrenness of material progress without the spiritual understanding and ethical standards to assure equitable distribution of the returns from joint production. The situation brings us again to those motives of human justice that are the power of the labor movement.

"We extended union organization to its highest levels in war-time peak production. But that was a growth based upon desire for the material benefits of unionism.

"Expansion of unionism in the period of greatest depression brings members who face adversity and who want the social and economic justice that unionism can provide. Additions to unions in depression will bring members who believe in the ideals for which our movement stands.

"Adversity is a character-building experience. Let us seize the opportunity to get into our trade union movement those who turn to constructive methods.

"In the coming year we must depend upon personal appeal as our chief reliance in spreading the cause of unionism. This personal method emphasizes the responsibility upon each union member for helping his fellow-workers to understand their own responsibility. The union needs the unorganized just as much as the unorganized need the union.

"In this extension of unionism by personal appeal our volunteer organizers have for years done good service. We need them this year as never before and we need the cooperation of every individual wage-earner and small salaried worker.

"We urge unions in all localities to begin continuous efforts for organizing workers during this coming year."

These fundamental truths expressed by the Executive Council should result in intensive organization campaigns which will bring the oppressed masses by hundreds of thousands into the ranks of the Organized Labor movement. There and there alone the strength of unity and high purpose will bring outstanding improvements in the wages and conditions under which they toil for a living.

Labor-Displacing Machines Cause Vast Unemployment, Green Says

President of A. F. of L. Declares Shorter Hours Are Necessary to Provide Work for Jobless Millions—6-Hour Day and 5-Day Week Should Not Mean Earnings Cut.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, stressed the importance of labor's program for the five-day week and six-hour day in an address here before the closing sessions of the conventions of the Metal, Building, and Union Label Trades Departments of the Federation.

"America, suffering tragically in the midst of plenty, with nearly 11,000,000 unemployed and almost that many on part time, has the choice of two alternatives," Mr. Green said.

"We can either divide available work among all by cutting the work day and work week or we can feed and care for a permanent army of millions of unemployed as charity cases."

Declaring that unemployment is the greatest problem before the labor movement, he said the American Federation of Labor would deal with it "thoroughly, directly, definitely and concretely both as to its causes and remedies."

"If the five-day week with a work day reduced to about six hours were established simultaneously and universally all over the country in one great national action, it would be a good start toward giving all men and women a chance to work again," he declared.

"The United States could not return to the six-day week and the eight-hour day," he said, "because there is not enough work for that." Even if the busy days of the 1929 boom period returned, he added, only 55 per cent of the workers could find jobs, so great had been the advance in technological improvement in the past three years.

Labor-Displacing Machinery

"The public knows little of the vast improvement in the mechanization of industry since the stock market crash of 1929," he continued. "This perfection of the machinery of production makes fewer men necessary.

"I have heard of a yarn plant where it is said not a single person is required to handle the automatic machinery and of another plant where two workers, watching over great machines, are all that are needed for a tremendous output.

"Unemployment is a problem transcending all others. It is now affecting between 60,000,000 and 75,000,000 of our people. With the seasonal decline in employment, we will probably have 12,000,000 unemployed by January instead of the 10,900,000 now idle."

Shorter Hours and Wages

As to wage rates for the proposed shorter work day and work week, the Federation president said when hours were cut from ten to eight a day wages went up because more efficient production methods resulted in lowered unit costs.

Asserting that organized labor was making plans "for the better days to come" and would fight aggressively "for a return of what has been taken from us," he continued.

"We will not rest until we have returned to all workers, those in Government employ and those in private employ, all the economic benefits, rights and privileges which they have been denied in this period of depression.

"The aims and principles of the American Federation of Labor have been put to a severe test in the last three years, and they have come out vindicated and strong. My honest judgment is that organized labor occupies a stronger position in the community and in the nation than ever before.

Labor's Constructive Program

"One fact stands out. Labor has offered a constructive program and our enemies have been compelled to recognize that fact. Our plan has been for a shorter work day and work week, better planning and a comprehensive public works program.

"In the past three years many corporations have been wiped out and even religious and fraternal organizations have suffered. It is the A. F. of L. which has been in the frontline trenches for a maintenance of standards.

"The test to which we have been subjected and the way in which we have come out of it proves that our great movement rests absolutely on unassailable foundations. Our movement is as strong, as vigorous and vital as ever in our history."

SHORTER HOURS URGED BY AFL DEPARTMENTS

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual conventions of the Metal Trades, Building Trades, and Union Label Trades Departments of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, recommended that the Federation undertake a nationwide drive to secure the five-day week and six-hour day, without reduction in wage rates.

The proposal was not put forward as a cure-all, but as a stop-gap in which to begin taking up the slack caused by the wholesale introduction of labor-displacing. machinery. and. methods. by those who own and control industry.

With 65 per cent unemployed in the building trades and 46 per cent in the metal trades the conventions of the three departments came to the unanimous conclusion that speedy action must be taken to spread employment.

Shorter Hours Imperative

The five-day week and the six-hour day were not by any means set as the goal for the workers but as a halting place on the march to a still shorter work week and work day which were regarded as inevitable and imperative as long as industrial engineers and those who control industry persist in using what is called "technological progress" for the exclusive benefit of the dividend receivers and coupon clippers, with millions of workers ruthlessly tossed into the army of the unemployed by such barbaric procedure.

No Reduction in Wages

Officials of the departments said that the maximum benefit would not be derived from the shorter work week and work day unless wages were left undisturbed. There was a general agreement, however, that wage rates must be left to negotiation, because the tendency has always been for wages to rise to higher levels when hours were shortened, provided business conditions improved.

FIFTY-SECOND A. F. OF L. CONVENTION OPENS

Over 300 Delegates Meet in Cincinnati—Mayor Wilson Pays Tribute to Labor—Gov. White Hits Communists, Favors Shorter Hours and "Saving Wage"—President Green Delivers Keynote Speech.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The fifty-second annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was called to order in the Hall of Mirrors of the Netherland Plaza Hotel here by Adolph Kummer, president of the Cincinnati Central Labor Union and chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

Three hundred and twenty-two delegates and hundreds of visitors were present.

For half an hour preceding the opening of the convention an orchestra composed of members of Musicians' Union No. 1 of Cincinnati, directed by Oscar F. Hild, president, entertained the throng.

The invocation was pronounced by Msgr. Marcellus Wagner, director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Cincinnati.

Kummer Visions Wealth Readjustment

Chairman Kummer told the delegates that conditions existing in the United States today are not caused by floods, crop failures, insufficient moisture or earthquakes.

"These conditions," he said, "are man-made, the result of the action or inaction of mankind. When there is on one side of the fence too much wheat, too much corn, too much wool, too much cotton, in fact, too much of everything that is necessary to life, and on the other side hungry, starving people, people insufficiently clothed and badly housed, there is something radically wrong. Such conditions demand a readjustment of wealth and a reconditioning of society."

Mayor Wilson Commends A. F. of L.

Mayor Russell Wilson extended the welcome of the city to the delegates. "I believe the American Federation of Labor is one of the greatest factors in our civilization," he said. "I believe its history is one of the most inspiring afforded by any organization, and when the final assay of its efforts is made it will be realized by all factions, by all elements, that it perhaps more, and certainly as much as any other force has brought us through this period of depression."

Governor White Sees Machine Menace

Governor George White of Ohio told the delegates they had never met in a more serious time. He praised the American workingman for having turned a deaf ear "to the tenets of Leninism and Communism."

"We have let the machine age slip up on us," he said. "Perhaps it is an indictment of our statesmanship, because it displaces hundreds and thousands and millions of men. It involves the question of the shorter day and fewer hours per week, fewer hours in the day—some way to give a chance to those persons who have been displaced by the merciless machine's grind. That must be done; and I am confident that you will do it, because it is absolutely necessary for the social order, for stability in this Nation we love, that the machine problem be worked out."

Governor White also said he favored not only a living wage, but a "saving wage."

Green Delivers Keynote Address

At the conclusion of Governor White's address, Mr. Kummer turned the gavel over to William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who officially opened the convention by delivering his keynote address in which he outlined the principles of organized labor and the measures that must be adopted in connection with the business depression and the unparalleled devastation of the workers and their dependents both by total unemployment and decreased earnings of those who are employed.

AFL DEPARTMENT HEADS URGE SHORTER HOURS

Five-Day Week and Six-Hour Day Held Necessary to Provide Jobs for Workers Under Machine Production.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Officials of all three of the departments of the American Federation of Labor at the department conventions here urged the shorter work day and work week as absolutely necessary for the protection of the workers and the progress of the people generally.

James O'Connell and John P. Frey, president and secretary, respectively, of the Metal Trades Department, said that pioneers for the shorter work day learned that reducing the hours of labor increased wages, that the first consideration was to reduce the hours of labor and the problem of wages would then more readily take care of itself.

They recalled that when the Boston convention met two years ago Federal statistics for production showed that if existing industrial establishments were operated at full capacoty 300 days a year "more manufactured goods would be produced under a four-hour day than had been placed upon the market in 1928 and 1929."

John J. Manning, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, stated that the five-day week and the six-hour day were not a "cure all" for all industrial and social evils, but merely a "stop gap" that would create employment for men thrown out by mechanical and technical progress and mergers of corporations.

"No one knows just to what extent the work day and work week need be shortened," he declared. "However, starting at the five-day week and the six-hour day a comprehensive study could be made of the actual conditions and a policy outlined which would, in a great measure, prevent a recurrence of the problems which have confronted us during the past three years."

M. J. McDonough, president of the Building Trades Department, speaking for 500,000 building trades workers in his organization, declared that conditions in the building industry, with 65 per cent of the workers jobless, were such that "a general acceptance of the five-day week would bring only slight relief and a much shorter work day will be required to materially benefit our membership."

"Our efforts should be exerted toward the shortening of our present eight-hour day, as I am sure that in the cities where our organizations have not established the five-day week, it will not require any great effort or sacrifice on their part to immediately inaugurate it."

RACKETEERS OUSTED, GREEN DECLARES

Cincinnati, Ohio.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, emphatically denied the charge of wholesale racketeering in the American labor movement made by the National Executive Committee of the Conference for Progressive Labor Action, with headquarters in New York City.

The charges were made in a so-called "Bill of Particulars" addressed to the A. F. of L. Executive Council and distributed to the Cincinnati newspapers and around the convention headquarters.

"Whatever racketeering there may have been in the ranks of the American Federation of Labor has been dealt with in an aggressive and constructive manner," Mr. Green said.

Charters Revoked

"Labor, like all other groups which stand for something and which are a force in national life, suffers from the acts of designing and unscrupulous men.

"Whenever we have found charges of racketeering against labor councils, locals or other groups within the A. F. of L. we have made investigations to determine the facts in the situation and in some cases we have revoked charters to get rid of racketeers.

"The document in which these charges are made is another criticism of the 'outs' against the 'ins' in the American Federation of Labor. The group making the charges is self-constituted and its opinions represent only the sentiments of its leaders, who have little or no responsibility to a large following and thus are able to indulge in broad statements without restraint."

Gangsterism Charge Denied

One of the charges was that "officials of the A. F. of L. had declared that 28 international unions were affected with gangsterism." Green denounced that statement as untrue.

Another charge said there was "free use of gunmen and thugs by the United Mine Workers of America," and that they cannot but "serve to encourage gangsters in Chicago and other centers to capture the unions." Green stigmatized this charge as unjustifiable.

On the charge of "brutal suppression of minority groups" and "members in many union organizations," Green said that "here again is a charge of minority outside groups which seek to get control of the American Federation of Labor from present leaders."

Labor's Record Speaks for Itself

"All this activity," Green said, "reminds me of the old story with the moral which holds that one only throws sticks at apples which look good.

"In the A. F. of L. convention," Mr. Green concluded, "we shall be concerned only with the important constructive policies which it is our duty and responsibility to settle for the benefit of the workers, employed and unemployed. Our task here at Cincinnati is too important and too difficult to permit us to take time from it to answer in detail charges against us from those on the outside. Our record of 52 years will speak for itself.

MANNING STRESSES UNION-MADE GOODS

AFL Label Trades Department Secretary Also Says High Wages and Shorter Hours Are Necessary to Protect Workers Against Labor-Displacing Machinery.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—A wider market for union-made goods, shorter hours of labor and higher wages were stressed as essential elements in restoring prosperity and protecting the rights of the workers by John Manning, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, in an interview here.

Mr. Manning pointed out that his department is made up of more than 40 affiliated organizations and has more than 500,000 accredited members. Organizations within it include miscellaneous groups which designate their products by the use of union labels. In the list there are unions specializing in types of occupations from bakers and boilermakers to upholsterers and weavers.

High Wages Make Buying Power

"The public must learn that it is important to buy from those who, in producing things, demand a high wage and high standards for working conditions," Mr. Manning said in discussing the advantages of union-made goods.

"High wages help to keep up buying power which is absolutely essential if we are to attain the necessary balance between production and consumption which is demanded by our industrial system.

"Public patronage of union industries, which stand for high wages and the increased purchasing power going with them, is one means by which the public can help to relieve economic stringencies and alleviate unemployment.

Machines Impose Shorter Hours

"We must also have shorter working days with higher wages in order that we may put more men to work and build up purchasing power, which will give the men some degree of assurance of being able to stay there.

"It is better to have four shifts running machines than to have one or two shifts do it. Thus it is not necessary to depend on increased speed of the production of the machines, with less labor operating them, to accomplish desired results.

"Machines, if commercialized to an extreme in this fashion, become 'Economic Frankensteins.' They may put out the production, but what of it? Who ever heard of machines which paid taxes, or rent, or which bought anything that contributed to the maintenance of national purchasing power?

"We must put more men on our machines and humanize them rather than commercializing them by making men slaves to the machine."

Mr. Manning placed no credence in the view expressed in certain quarters that those who own and control industry would not be able to get a reasonable profit if they employed more persons to work fewer hours at higher wage rates per hour.

"In the past four years there has been a deflation of 11 billion dollars in wages through unemployment and only a six billion dollar deflation in dividends paid out," he said. "Certainly that is evidence that money accruing from profits of production can be more evenly distributed with a greater share given to labor."

JOBS FOR THOUSANDS IN LEGALIZED BEER

Secretary Obergfell of Brewery Workers Union Says Brewery and Allied Industries Employed 1,250,000 Peresons in 1919—Volstead Act Amendment Would Make Large Markets for Grain and Coal.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"Modification of the Volstead Act to permit the sale and manufacture of beer would have a decided effect upon economic conditions of our country and would go a long way to relieve the present unemployment situation," declared Joseph Obergfell, secretary of the International Union of the Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America, and one of the union's delegates to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

"The restoration of the brewing and allied industries," he said, "would set in motion employment for the workers of the various trades and callings that previously were engaged in these industries and at the very outset would give added employment to workers engaged in the machinery and metal trades industries for the manufacture of machinery necessary to rehabilitate the few plants that are now in operation and those that would be reestablished.

Work for Building Trades

"It would give considerable work to building tradesmen who would erect the new buildings to take the place of the present structures or for the building of entirely new plants.

"In addition the automobile industry would have an immediate outlet for thousands of trucks and automobiles. Many hundreds of automobile mechanics would secure employment as maintenance men in the brewery plants."

In 1919, according to Mr. Obergfell, there were 75,000 workers directly connected with the brewing of beer employed in the plants at a wage of $150,000,000 a year, compared with 8,720 employes in 1931 whose wages were $20,000,000.

If modification of the Volstead Act is followed by a larger distribution of beer in bottles than in kegs there will be a considerable increase in the men employed in bottling, said Mr. Obergfell. He estimated that in such an event there would be 150,000 employes with an annual wage of $315,000,000.

$100,000,000 for Rehabilitation

A statement by Mr. Obergfell's union also declared that modification of the Volstead Act would result in enormously increased employment through the modernization of the breweries of the nation, which would cost $100,000,000.

Pointing out the widespread ramifications of the brewing industry, the union said that in 1919 there were approximately 1,250,000 workers engaged in the brewing and allied industries which supplied machinery, material and supplies to the industry.

These workers included coopers, hoop makers, box makers, lumberjacks, carton workers, glass bottle blowers, carpenters, bricklayers, painters, iron and steel workers, cement finishers, plumbers, electrical workers pattern makers, boiler makers, elevator constructors, automobile mechanics, engineers, firemen, oilers, brewers, bottlers, teamsters, pressmen, printers, stenographers, clerks, and salesmen.

In addition to this number of trades, it was said that the industry gave work to coal miners, to transportation workers and to agriculture.

The year prior to enactment of the prohibition law, according to figures supplied by Federal sources, it was said, the brewing industry consumed more than 3,000,000 tons of coal and more than 83,000,000 bushels of grain.

Officials of the union also claimed that the income of the Federal Government would be augmented by an additional $300,000,000 in taxes and a large amount in subsequent years, in addition to which the Government would effect a large saving in enforcement expenditures.

PERKINS AND MANNING HEAD LABEL TRADES

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, George W. Perkins, Oak Park, Ill., former president of the Cigar Makers' International Union of America; secretary-treasurer, John J. Manning, Washington, D. C.; first vice president, Matthew Woll, Washington, D. C., first vice president of the International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America; second vice president, Joseph Obergfell, Cincinnati, secretary of the International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America; third vice president, A. A. Myrup, Chicago, secretary-treasurer of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America; fourth vice president, Charles P. Howard, Indianapolis, president of the International Typographical Union; fifth vice president, John J. Mara, Boston, president of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

All of these officers were reelected with the exception of Mr. Mara, who is a new member of the label trades official family.

M'DONOUGH AND SPENCER HEAD BUILDING TRADES

Cincinnati, Ohio.—President M. J. McDonough and Secretary-Treasurer William J. Spencer of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor are serving the first year of three-year terms. The annual convention of the department held here elected the following additional officers:

First vice president, John J. Hynes, Washington, D. C., president Sheet Metal Workers International Association; second vice president, Lawrence P. Lindelof, Lafayette, Ind., president of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America; third vice president, P. J. Morrin, St. Louis, Mo., president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers; fourth vice president, William J. McSorley, Cleveland, president of the International Union of Wood Wire and Metal Lathers; fifth vice president, John Possehl, Washington, D. C., president of the International Union of Operating Engineers; sixth vice president, Joseph V. Moreschi, Quincy, Mass., president of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union of America.

$40,000,000 BENEFITS PAID BY TRADE UNIONS

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Nearly forty million dollars were paid in benefits by the standard national and international trade unions of the United States and Canada in 1931, an increase of over $3,000,000 over those reported for 1930, according to the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation here.

The amounts disbursed for the various forms of benefits follow:

Sick	$2,220,974.64
Death	17,132,023.07
Unemployment	9,146,724.35
Old Age	6,090,742.90
Disability	3,671,380.30
Miscellaneous	1,700,027.88
Total	$39,961,873.14

In 1929 the total benefits amounted to $32,242,444.40, and in 1930 reached $36,697,979.56.

"It is interesting to note an increase of almost $6,000,000 for the year 1931 over 1930 in the payment of unemployment benefits," the council said. "In 1930 our affiliated organizations reported a payment of $3,311,279.50 and in 1931 the figures reported showed a payment of $9,146,724.35, an increase of $5,835,444.85.

"This is surely a remarkable achievement and is again a manifestation of the manner in which the trade union movement is meeting the present emergencies which it is confronted and is assisting its members during this great period of unemployment."

PROHIBITION REPEAL ASKED BY SPENCER

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The repeal of the Prohibition Amendment would be very effective in creating work for the jobless, declared W. J. Spencer, secretary-treasurer of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, in discussing the unemployment problem as it affects the building trades.

"One of our most readily available solutions of the problem of putting men back to work is the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment," he said. "Following repeal would come the rehabilitation of the breweries, which have been idle for more than ten years. Renovation of old plants and the building of new ones will put bricklayers, masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, steam fitters, coppersmiths and scores of other crafts to work."

While admitting there might be a tendency on the part of industrial leaders and observers to overestimate the possibilities of improved economic conditions generally that will arise from legalizing the manufacture and sale of beer, Spencer said that "rehabilitating the brewery industry is something tangible upon which we can base plans for business improvement. We have got to have something to start with, and I believe that three million men and women would be put back to work if we get beer back."

U. S. BEER MACHINERY DEMANDED BY FREY

Cincinnati, Ohio.—John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, stated in an interview here that his organization has been active in backing plans for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment and giving legal status to the manufacture and sale of beer. "But we are firmly opposed," he added, "to all plans for the rehabilitation of breweries which call for importation of machinery from Europe."

"There's a movement under way at present," he explained, "to bring about importation of brewing machinery from abroad on the ground that we must hasten business recovery by taking machinery which is ready for shipment."

Mr. Frey emphasized the principle that when the brewing industry in the United States is revived, brewers should buy American-made machinery in preference to that made in other countries.

HOURS REDUCTION WITHOUT PAY CUTS

Frank Morrison, A. F. of L. Secretary, Cites Experience of Chicago Printers to Show That Hours Decrease and Wage Increases May Go Hand in Hand.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, does not believe that the shorter work day and work week should result in decreased wages.

"That question will work itself out and I will give you a concrete example to show you how," Mr. Morrison said in an interview here.

"When I was elected secretary of the Federation in 1896, printers worked ten hours a day. I am a member of the Chhicago Typographical Union. In 1898 our men won the nine-hour day. Ten years later that was reduced to the eight-hour day and this was reduced later to the forty-four-hour week.

"The eight-hour day cost us $4,000,000 and the forty-four-hour week cost us $16,000,000. In 1929 the Chicago printers signed a five-year agreement. The first year was for forty-four hours, the second and third years for forty hours in the three summer months, and the last eighteen months provided for the five-day week.

"Wages in 1896 were $18 a week for printers in Chicago. That was for the longer work week. Today wages are $57 a week for the shorter hours, over three times as much in money and many hours less in labor. This only proves the slogan of the American Federation of Labor that reducing the hours increases the pay.

"In our last convention in Vancouver we stated that there were two approaches to the unemployment problem, that if employers did not arrange for a shorter work week for their employes then funds would have to be made available to take care of the needy. Few of the employers have made any effort to establish a shorter work-day and work-week, and as a result community chests and communities themselves are being called on to support the jobless and their dependents.

Green Urges Drive for 6-Hour Day, 5-Day Week, and Work Insurance

AFL President Pledges Battle for Child Labor Abolition, Higher Wages, and Preservation of Human Values—Workers' Buying Power Must Be Restored to Secure Prosperity.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The establishment of the six-hour day and five-day week throughout the entire Nation, compulsory unemployment insurance in the various States, the restoration of former wage scales and further increases in wages, and the protection of women and children from industrial exploitation were among the outstanding measures urged by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in his keynote speech opening the fifty-second annual convention of the Federation here.

Mr. Green declared that the convention met at a time when the "fury and stress" of the industrial storm of the last three years had struck working men and women with devastating severity.

Battle for Human Values

Suffering among the unemployed and their families was far greater than at any time since 1929. Morale was lower and untold deterioration in human values had occurred.

Others were thinking of profits, interest and dividends, he said, but the American Federation of Labor was concerned with the preservation of sacred human values, and its great struggle for higher wages and other reforms was actuated by the sincere desire to advance human welfare in the broadest interpretation of that term.

"Our fight is for better manhood, for a better womanhood, for a better, childhood," he declared. "We say, 'Let the heavens fall, but let human values be protected.'

"Today we find 12,000,000 unemployed. Their faith is blurred.

"We find the under-privileged children in the mining camps and factories and industrial centres appealing to us for food and clothing.

"Never will we complete our task successfully until we take the children out of the workshop and place them in the school and in the home."

Jobs for All Must Be Provided

Stressing the absolute necessity of providing jobs for all the millions of those able and willing to work, Mr. Green declared that one of the Federation's tasks was to bring about that result. He referred to the industrial revolution created by the wholesale introduction of labor-displacing machinery and said labor's high-wage policy was intended to meet that situation.

Restoration of Buying Power Necessary

"We hold that industry cannot sell goods unless it provides a market where goods can be sold," he continued. "Since 1929 purchasing power has been reduced billions of dollars.

"How is it possible in 1932 to buy and consume the same amount as was bought and consumed in 1929, when buying power is thirty billion dollars less? Prosperity will never return to our fair Nation until we put back in the hands of the people the power to buy goods.

High Wage Struggle

"During the depression the American Federation of Labor has kept the faith. The movement has kept intact, so that when happy days come again we will do all in our power to see that the American worker will get back the wages taken from him during the depression."

Six-Hour Day, Five-Day Week

Declaring that the convention must make plans for the establishment of the five-day week and six-hour day throughout the entire country instead of in isolated instances, Mr. Green declared that such a nationwide effort by labor would "electrify the Nation" and change the aspect of the whole economic situation.

Compulsory Unemployment Insurance

Mr. Green described the executive council's approval of compulsory unemployment insurance paid for entirely by employers as a most advanced step taken after the matter had been considered from every angle. He said that at the close of the convention he and his associates would undertake at once the development of public opinion for the proposal and would call on State legislatures "to enact this form of social legislation into law."

He expressed the hope that the measures adopted by the convention would "make a valuable contribution toward the restoration of our impaired capitalistic structure."

METAL TRADES ELECT O'CONNELL AND FREY

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor reelected all of the department's officers without opposition. They are:

President, James O'Connell; secretary-treasurer, John P. Frey; first vice president, J. A. Franklin, Kansas City, Kansas, president of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America; second vice president, John Coefield, Washington, D. C., president of the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steamfitters of the United States and Canada; third vice president, John J. Hynes, Washington, D. C., president of the Sheet Metal Workers International Association; fourth vice president, W. W. Britton, Cincinnati, president of the Metal Polishers' International Union; fifth vice president, Roy Horn, Chicago, president of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers; sixth vice president, James Wilson, Cincinnati, president of the Pattern Makers' League of North America.

Labor Broadcast In Omaha

Omaha, Neb.—President Bowerman of the Omaha Central Labor Union inaugurated the union's series of broadcasts over Station KOIL. The addresses are given every Saturday night at 7:30.

Union Sets Up Sewing Circle To Make Clothes for Jobless

Santa Barbara, Calif.—The Santa Barbara Central Labor Council decided to organize a sewing circle to help make up garments from the 40,000 yards of cloth furnished by the Red Cross to aid in supplying the children of the unemployed with clothing during the Winter.